

## REMARKS

Careful consideration has been given to the Official Action of April 5, 2004 and reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has withdrawn the previous rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112 and has also withdrawn the objection to the drawings and the specification all based on the amendatory action which has been taken.

Claims 1-6, 10-20, 24-34, 38-43, 45-51, 53-59 and 61-74 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Claims 7-9, 21-23, 35-37, 44, 52 and 60 have been objected to but include allowable subject matter subject to their being rewritten in independent form.

In the amendatory action which has been taken, claims 7, 21, 35, 44, 52 and 60 have been incorporated into their base claim. The subject matter of these claims has been incorporated into their respective base claims without the intervening claims as the subject matter of these claims is independent of the subject matter of the intervening claims and confers the patentability of the base claim by its respective subject matter. Namely, the allowable subject matter of the allowable claims is based on the recitation therein and not on the basis of the intervening claims which are drawn to separate distinct features which become dependent upon the now amended respective independent claim. This is consistent

with the arguments which have been previously presented and also consistent with the commentary of the Examiner with regard to the arguments which have been previously submitted in support of the patentability of the claims.

It is additionally noted, that independent claim 68 is being cancelled and independent 67 is being amended to include an equivalent feature of that being added to claim 15.

Since it is believed that the independent claims are now in condition for allowance along with the claims dependent therefrom, no discussion of the cited is pertinent.

By reason of the above action and comments, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance early notice of which would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julian H. Cohen', is written over a horizontal line.

JULIAN H. COHEN  
C/O LADAS & PARRY  
26 WEST 61<sup>ST</sup> STREET  
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10023  
REG. NO. 20302 - 212-708-1887